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For Immediate Release February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Cheese, Chocolate, and Everything Swiss

Rep. Novak Meets with Officials from Switzerland's Consulate General

MADISON – This week Rep. Novak had the privilege to meet with members of Switzerland's Consulate General, including Consul General Bruno Ryff, at the Wisconsin State Capitol. The Swiss Consul General requested the meeting because Rep. Novak's district includes part of Green County.

The discussion focused on the condition of the strong bilateral relations between Switzerland and Wisconsin. Swiss immigrants have made valuable economic and cultural contributions over the years, with many of them starting businesses that are still operating in Southwest Wisconsin.

"It was great to get an opportunity to meet with Consul General Ryff, and discuss the rich Swiss tradition that exists in Southwest Wisconsin, particularly in the Monroe area." said Rep. Novak. "The Consul General mentioned he enjoys spending time in establishments in Monroe and New Glarus, which both exhibit a strong local Swiss tradition."

Switzerland has Consulate offices located across the United States to provide visa and other consular services, maintain close relations with state and local authorities, and to engage in public diplomacy. Members from Switzerland's Consulate General work closely with Swiss-American business groups, Swiss associations, and clubs throughout the Midwest.

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